

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 225510

EXDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT BUDAPEST 3050 ACTION SECSTATE SEP 19.

QUOTE: C O N F I D E N T I A L BUDAPEST 3050

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (INGERSOLL, ROBERT S.), PFOR, HU, NATO

SUBJECT: DEPUTY SECRETARY'S BUDAPEST VISIT: BRIEFING OF NATO
AMBASSADORS

REF: SOFIA 2025 (DEPTO 34)

1. IN ACCORDANCE WITH LONG-ESTABLISHED LOCAL CUSTOM AND
WITH PRIOR KNOWLEDGE OF DEPUTY SECRETARY, MCAULIFFE MET
WITH RESIDENT NATO AMBASSADORS AND CHARGES LATE AFTERNOON
SEPTEMBER 17 AND BRIEFED THEM ON DEPUTY SECRETARY'S
SEPTEMBER 14-SEPTEMBER 16 VISIT TO HUNGARY. REPRESENTED
WERE: BELGIUM, CANADA, FRANCE, FRG, GREECE, ITALY, NETHERLANDS,
NORWAY, PORTUGAL, TURKEY, UK.

2. MCAULIFFE DESCRIBED DEPUTY SECRETARY'S CROWDED SCHEDULE
IN DETAIL, EMPHASIZED CORDIAL HOSPITALITY THAT GOH HAD
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EXTENDED TO DEPUTY SECRETARY AND MRS. INGERSOLL AND THEIR
PARTY AND DISCUSSED IN GENERAL, NON-SPECIFIC TERMS SAME
THEMES AS REFTEL. HE ALSO REPORTED IN CURSORY FASHION
ON SEPTEMBER 11-SEPTEMBER 13 BUDAPEST VISIT BY ASSISTANT

SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION BINDER (SEPTTEL), ON USG-GOH DECISION TO ELIMINATE CLOSED ZONES AND RESTRICTED EXIT/ENTRY POINTS, AND ON U.S. PROPOSAL TO NEGOTIATE CULTURAL/SCIENTIFIC/ TECHNICAL AGREEMENT, WHICH DREW COMMENT FROM FRG AND ITALIAN REPS THAT AMERICA MIGHT SOON CATCH UP WITH ITS WESTERN EUROPEAN ALLIES.

3. BRESSIER (FRANCE) AND LONG (UK CHARGE) WERE INTRIGUED BY FACT THAT FOREIGN OFFICE HAD SCHEDULED DEPUTY SECRETARY TO MEET WITH ANDRAS GYENES WHO IS CHAIRMAN OF PARLIAMENTARY FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY SECRETARY OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE, ON PREMISES OF HUNGARIAN SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY HEADQUARTERS. BOTH DECLARED IT A "FIRST" FOR ANY OFFICIAL BELOW CABINET LEVEL FROM AN ALLIED COUNTRY; AND SEVERAL SPECULATED THAT JANOS KADAR HIMSELF IN HIS OWN TYPICALLY CIRCUMSPECT WAY WAS ATTEMPTING TO ESTABLISH THROUGH GYENES AND THE DEPUTY SECRETARY A LINE OF COMMUNICATION TO PRESIDENT FORD AND SECRETARY KISSINGER.

4. KNEPPELHOUT (NETHERLANDS) AND BAYOT (BELGIUM) FOUND IT AMAZING AND HEARTENING THAT PUJA HAD NOT RESPONDED TO SECRETARY'S SEPTEMBER 1 ADDRESS ON DEVELOPED COUNTRY/ LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRY RELATIONSHIPS WITH USUAL TRITE SPEECHIFIED CANT. BRESSIER (FRANCE) FOUND PUJA'S CONDUCT ENCOURAGING BUT NOT AT ALL SURPRISING. PUJA HAD CONDUCTED HIMSELF IN ADMIRABLE, SOPHISTICATED, REASONABLE WAY DURING HIS MEETINGS WITH FONMIN SAUVAGNARGUES AND PRESIDENT GISCARD D'ESTAING IN PARIS LAST JUNE (BUDAPEST 2402); AND FRENCH HAVE REACHED CONCLUSION THAT HUNGARIAN FONMIN IS HIGHLY INTELLIGENT AND FAR BETTER INFORMED ABOUT CURRENT EVENTS AND OBJECTIVE REALITY IN REAL WORLD THAN HAD BEEN SUSPECTED PREVIOUSLY.

5. SEVERAL ALLIED REPS COMMENTED THAT, WITH TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF KADAR'S ACCESSION TO POWER NOW APPROACHING, ONE COULD EXPECT HUNGARIANS TO PRESS FOR RETURN OF CROWN OF ST. ISTVAN -- AND NO LONGER BE CONTENT TO SHOW TO
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THOUSANDS UPON THOUSANDS OF FOREIGN TOURISTS THE REPLICA OF THE CROWN NOW ON DISPLAY IN ST. MATTHIAS CHURCH ON CASTLE HILL. WHEN ASKED WHETHER PUJA HAD DISCUSSED CROWN WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER WHEN THEY MET IN HELSINKI LAST MONTH, MCAULIFFE SAID HE DID NOT KNOW.

6. DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO REPEAT FOREGOING TO USNATO.
MCAULIFF
UNQUOTE INGERSOLL

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